

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-3 and 5-7;

Add the following claims 8-12:

Add the following claim 8:

1 8. A method for transmitting data in encrypted form over a communication link from
2 a transmitter to a receiver comprising, in combination, the steps of:
3 providing a seed value to both said transmitter and receiver,
4 generating a first sequence of pseudo-random key values based on said seed value
5 at said transmitter, each new key value in said sequence being produced at a time
6 dependent upon a predetermined characteristic of the data being transmitted over said link,
7 encrypting the data sent over said link at said transmitter in accordance with said first
8 sequence,
9 generating a second sequence of pseudo-random key values based on said seed value
10 at said receiver, each new key value in said sequence being produced at a time dependent
11 upon said predetermined characteristic of said data transmitted over said link such that said
12 first and second sequences are identical to one another, and
13 decrypting the data sent over said link at said receiver in accordance with said second
14 sequence.

1 9. The method set forth in claim 8 wherein said data transmitted over said link
2 comprises a sequence of blocks and wherein a new one of said key values in said first and
3 said second sequences is produced each time a predetermined number of said blocks are
4 transmitted over said link.

Claim 4

10. The method as set forth in claim 9 further including the step of altering said predetermined number of blocks each time said new key value in said first and said second sequences is produced.

11. The method as set forth in claim 8 including the steps of:
compressing the data to be transmitted into a compressed format at the transmitter prior to said encrypting step, and
decompressing the data received at said receiver after said decrypting step.

12. The method as set forth in claim 8 wherein said step of providing a seed value comprises transmitting the same random number seed value to both said transmitter and said receiver from a control center remote from said transmitter and receiver to enable said transmitter and receiver to communicate encrypted information utilizing said transmitted seed value.

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 are pending in this action. Although the Office Action mailed September 1, 1992 dealt with claim 4, that claim was canceled by the Amendment filed on June 23, 1992. In the outstanding action, claims 1-7 were rejected for indefiniteness under 35 USC 112, but have been indicated to be allowable if the indefiniteness is corrected.

DRAWING CORRECTIONS

The Examiner has noted that the reference (in Fig. 1 at block 33) to "DATA UTILIZATION" should identify a circuit. In addition, the reference numeral 223 used in Fig. 1 to identify the block "PSEUDO-RANDOM NUMBER GENERATOR" is incorrect and should read --23--. Moreover, as also noted by the Examiner, Fig. 4 was inadvertently